

## **Utility Sounding Board (USB) Meeting Summary**

### **December 12, 2007**

#### **USB members in attendance:**

- Larry Blaufus – Clark Public Utilities
- Darroll Clark – Franklin Co. PUD
- Kevin Howerton – Grays Harbor PUD
- Theresa Lackey – Midstate Electric Co-op
- Joe Savage – Emerald PUD
- Dawn Senger – Richland Energy Services
- Randy Thorn – Idaho Power Company
- Dan Villalobos – Inland Power & Light
- Jim Wellcome – Cowlitz County PUD

#### **Guests:**

Nora Miller – Synergy (PTR)

#### **BPA staff in attendance at various times:**

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|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Becky Clark</li><li>• Bruce Cody</li><li>• Lauren Gage</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adam Hadley</li><li>• Tom Hannon</li><li>• Mark Johnson</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Karen Meadows</li><li>• Grant Vincent</li><li>• Mira Vowles</li></ul> |
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#### **2008 Utility Workshop (Becky Clark)**

Becky Clark updated the USB on latest developments related to the 2008 Utility Workshop, including the suggested theme, "Riding the Big Green Wave." The USB suggested a Hawaiian-themed reception to go along with the theme.

#### **Association of Energy Services Professionals (AESP) Workshops on Demand Side Management (Mira Vowles)**

There will be three AESP "Principles of Demand Side Management" training sessions, which will address the regional problem of not having enough trained people to do all the work. Two sessions will be in the Puget Sound area and one in Portland. The registration fee is \$950 per person [since reduced to \$750].

- January 14-16 and February 4-6, 2008 (Bellevue area)  
The Principles of Demand-Side Management Session I  
<http://aesp.org/cde.cfm?event=196390>
- January 16-18 & February 6-8, 2008 (Bellevue area)  
The Principles of Demand-Side Management Session II  
<http://aesp.org/cde.cfm?event=196392>
- February 25-29, 2008 (Portland Area)  
The Principles of Demand-Side Management  
(<http://aesp.org/cde.cfm?event=196345>)

#### **Commercial and Agriculture Technical Services (Mira Vowles)**

BPA is launching commercial and agriculture technical services with 12 consultants available. A cost Share will be required for projects costing over \$10,000.

- BPA would like to list on the Commercial and Agriculture Technical Services Proposal (TSP) Web page utilities that are offering incentives.

- BPA Energy Efficiency Representatives (EERs) will ask utilities if they want their utility Web site listed on this new TSP Web site. Those utility names will be listed unless the utility tells the EER to have it removed.
- The utility, not the commercial/agriculture TSP consultant, is expected to enter projects on the TSP website. BPA wants utilities to be closely involved with any C/A TSP projects.
- There will be a Brown Bag session on the Commercial/Agriculture TSP in January. [The January 9 Brown Bag will focus on the Commercial TSP. The same process applies for agriculture, according to Agricultural Sector Lead Brad Miller. See <http://www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/Utilities%5FSharing%5FEEU/Utility%5FBrown%5FBag/> for information on the Brown Bag.] Commercial Technical Service Talking Points will also be discussed at that Brown Bag.
- What else does BPA need to do or provide?
  - Set up a matrix showing consultants' general expertise and specialties
  - Provide a list of what consultants have done in the past
  - Clarify what is agriculture vs. industrial, e.g., cold storage

### **CFL Strategy**

BPA is considering its CFL Strategy, post-Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, since NEEA believes the CFL market is transformed. BPA plans to conduct market research to better understand the level of opportunity available: the percent of households that have purchased CFLs (when prices are high, or when prices are relatively low) and the percent of bulbs sold that are CFLs.

Puget Sound Energy just did a study to look at the number of sockets by home type and control type.

- Saturation of sales - 20 percent are CFLs
- Eight or nine CFLs are installed in the average home, but there are still a lot of sockets without CFLs
- Approximately one-third of homes have no CFLs
- Fifty percent of homes have less than two CFLs

CFL Market Research: BPA wants to mine data that already exists (NEEA data, PSE data) to find out what are the opportunities, and perhaps supplement this with a phone survey to better understand how to design programs to achieve remaining potential purchasing behavior access issues. Issues to consider include what people are willing to purchase, and storage, i.e., how many bulbs are being installed vs. stored?

### **Questions/Comments?**

- What is the plan for determining actual savings? Council savings estimates are based on the amount of usage by room type based on a 1995 Tacoma Power study. These data could be improved upon for new homes.
- One utility pointed out that availability is still a problem in some areas and price points are still high in some places.
- One USB member mentioned the need for more education on the uses of CFLs.
- EPUD said they might be a test case since they have just mailed a 4-pack of CFLs to every one of their customers.
- Two utilities are seeing problems with premature failures. Other utilities are not hearing of any premature failure problems.

The Council is interested in getting feedback from programs implemented on assumptions used to develop savings estimates for the 6<sup>th</sup> Power Plan.

Joe Savage handed out a brochure on fluorescent lamp disposal program.

Mark Johnson announced that BPA will not be including twisters in the Big Box program.

Lauren Gage said that two utilities noted that several of the big box stores are not doing a good job promoting of CFLs or of highlighting the promotion price. Fred Meyer has done a good job.

#### **PTR System (Grant Vincent and Nora Miller)**

Grant Vincent reviewed FY 2007 improvements to the PTR system (see handout) and user feedback and planned improvements

Nora Miller thanked utilities for their participation in the PTR improvement survey. She summarized the survey results. (See PTR Feedback with suggested responses to consider.)

Grant also handed out a summary of the survey questions and customer responses. (See PTR Customer Feedback – Actual Answers.)

#### **Ductless Heat Pumps (Adam Hadley)**

The regional Technical Forum (RTF) approved a provisional deemed value (\$3,500 kWh savings) for ductless heat pumps in a retrofit application. BPA has put together a very early draft plan for a ductless heat pump pilot (see Ductless heat Pump handout). Adam Hadley discussed BPA's preliminary thoughts, and also shared a preliminary marketing flyer that utilities could use to educate homeowners.

Adam asked for feedback on the pilot. Units typically cost \$3,000 to \$5,000 installed. Is a \$1,500 incentive enough?

#### Questions/Comments?

- No backup heat (no strip heaters).
- No flicker when these units start.
- What is impact of changes in air conditioning load?

Mark Johnson said BPA is considering using 18,000 kWh annual energy use as a screen before a home would qualify. This measure is limited to single-family houses with zonal heating. BPA will require pre- and post-billing histories from the utility as a condition of participation.

#### **Low-Income Weatherization (Mark Johnson)**

Some utilities have not been able to get good data from CAP agencies on low-income weatherization slant measures installed. BPA is trying to move to a whole house deemed approach so utilities can determine savings based on dollars.

#### **Regional Technical Forum (Bruce Cody)**

Bruce Cody provided a summary of the November 9 RTF meeting. He reviewed the Performance Tested Comfort System™ (PTCS) quality assurance process improvement discussion. The complete November meeting summary is available at [http://www.nwcouncil.org/rtf/meetings/2007/2007\\_11/minutes.pdf](http://www.nwcouncil.org/rtf/meetings/2007/2007_11/minutes.pdf).

In 2008, BPA expects approximately 3,000 systems (duct heating and heat pumps) to be installed. There are currently 250 credited inspectors, but this may not be enough for future demand. The RTF discussed adding a Master Technician Program and online testing.

Bruce summarized RTF research project updates, which are provided in the meeting minutes above. Key updates include:

- The deemed savings analysis for ENERGY STAR® Refrigerators cost data was widely varied, affecting cost-effectiveness. The RTF decided more cost data are needed.
- Southern California Edison studied ENERGY STAR Commercial Clothes Washers. Their data showed more savings than the RTF had previously assumed. The RTF approved the higher savings numbers.

The next RTF meeting will be held on January 8.

#### Action Items

BPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mira will send a draft list of Commercial TSP consultants and areas of expertise to the USB.</li><li>▪ Lauren will summarize assumptions the Council uses to determine CFL savings.</li><li>▪ Lauren will find out how/when the Council will be looking for input on costs and savings assumptions for the 6th Power Plan.</li><li>▪ Lauren to follow up with EPUD, Joe Savage, re CFLs.</li><li>▪ Lauren may request utility input into the CFL survey/market research plan.</li><li>▪ Adam to explain to USB if BPA is considering any incentive for ductless heat pumps in commercial.</li></ul>
USB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ </li></ul>

#### Next Meetings

• January 9, 2008	Conference call, 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
• February 13, 2008	Face-to-face meeting, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### Potential Agenda Items for Next Meeting: